(c) the steps being taken to check the theft of coal?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRIMATI KANTI SINGH) :

(a) and (b). According to information furnished by Coal India Ltd., the reports of theft of coal as detected, from time to time, by security personnel deployed by the coal companies have come to notice of the management. The details of such cases during the last three years, State-wise are as follows:

| State | Years | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| | 1993-94 | 1994-95 | 1995-96 |
| Bihar | 262 | 211 | 206 |
| West Bengal | 2412 | 1843 | 1371 |
| Madhya Pradesh | 17 | 28 | 15 |
| Maharashtra | 2 | 2 | 4 |
| Orissa | 20 | 10 | 12 |
| Assam | - | 2 | - |
| Total | 2713 | 2096 | 1608 |

(c) The steps taken to check the theft of coal are:

1. Construction/erection of fencing wall around the coal stocks;
2. Installation of check posts on the main roads leading to collieries;
3. Installation of watch towers and providing lighting arrangements around the coal stocking areas;
4. Collection of intelligence;
5. Surprise checks alongwith local police and colliery security personnnel;
6. Round the clock patrolling by colliery security personnel;
7. Meeting with district authorities for drawing out plan to eliminate the menace; and
8. Lodging of FIRs with local police.

**Supply of Coal**

1920. SHRI MAHENDRA SINGH BHATI :
SHRI GIRDHARI LAL BHARGAVA :

Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state :

(a) the quantity of coal required by the State Government of Rajasthan for its various industries;

(b) whether there is a gap between the demand and supply;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the steps taken by the Union Government to supply sufficient quantity of coal to Rajasthan?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRIMATI KANTI SINGH) : (a) to (d). The requirement of coal are assessed industry/sector-wise for the whole country. They are not assessed State-wise. Coal Companies are supplying coal based on the programmes submitted by the consumers in accordance with sponsorships issued by the respective sponsoring authorities. Coal supply to power and Cement industries are made based on short-term linkages established by the Standing Linkage Committee (SLC) to these sectors.

The overall despatches of coal to core and non-core sector consumers of Rajasthan during 1995-96 were 57.28 lakh tonnes (provisional) as against the despatch of 54.44 lakh tonnes during 1994-95, showing a growth of 5.2%.

Coal Companies are endeavouring to meet the requirements of coal of all consumers in the country including that of consumers in Rajasthan by increasing production of coal. In addition, coal from a number of collieries is being offered under the Liberalised Sales Scheme under which scheme coal is supplied without the requirements of linkages/sponsorships.

**Dues of NTC Mill Workers**

1921. SHRI DILEEP SANGHANI : Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the employees of NTC mills particularly in Gujarat have yet to get their terminal benefits after their retirements;

(b) if so, the details of affected employees in this regard;

(c) the reasons therefor; and

(d) by when these employees are likely to get their terminal dues?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI R.L. JALAPPA): (a) to (c). On account of acute shortage of working capital requirements, NTC has been able to pay only net wages to the workers/employees of NTC mills in Gujarat. As a result, there has been some default in payment of post retirement dues to the superannuated employees of NTC towards PF & ESI. An amount of Rs.43.21 lakhs is outstanding to the superannuated employees of NTC (Gujarat) towards PS & ESI dues.

(d) On account of net worth erosion of 8 out of 9 subsidiaries of NTC, these 8 subsidiary corporations including NTC (Gujarat) Ltd. have been referred to and declared sick by the BIFR. Government have approved a revised Turn Around Plan for NTC mills in Gujarat involving modernisation of six out of eleven mills and restructuring of 5 unviable mills into 3 viable units by merger. This plan involves an outlay of Rs.158.25 crores. The funds will be generated out of sale of surplus lands and assets of NTC mills. Pending approval of the rehabilitation plan by BIFR and its implementation,

Government are meeting the shortfall faced by NTC towards payment of wages and salaries. Once the BIFR approves the rehabilitation plan for NTC(Guj.) and funds become available; it is expected that NTC(Guj.) will be able to clear all outstanding terminal dues of the superannuated employees of its mills. In the meanwhile, the company is making efforts to clear the dues as far as possible.

**Loan for Spinning Mills**

1922. SHRI MOHAN RAWALE : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the central financial institutions are willing to finance new cooperative spinning mills;

(b) if not, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the Government propose to pursuade the central financial institutions to sanction long term loan assistance to the extent of 50 per cent project cost to cooperative spinning mills in Maharashtra; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : (a) The Industrial Development Bank of India (IDBI) has reported that financial institutions (FIs) would be willing to consider proposals from new co-operative spinning mills provided these are found viable and there are no defaults to the FIs of the existing co operative spinning mills in the concerned States.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) and (d) The Government of Maharashtra had advised the IDBI that 50 co-operative spinning mills would be set up in the State of Maharashtra during Eighth Plan period. Of these, 14 have so far approached IDBI and 20 have approached Industrial Finance Corporation of India Ltd. (IFCI) for assistance.

IDBI has reported that no assistance has been sanctioned by FIs so far, as it was felt that there was no scope for such a large capacity. In view of greater emphasis on exports, FIs have been giving preference to export oriented units promoted by persons with experience in the line and envisaging installation of most modern equipment to ensure production of yarn of international standard.

The working of the existing co-operative mills has been generally unsatisfactory and they have large overdues to FIs. IDBI has advised the Government of Maharashtra to clear the overdues of existing co-operative spinning mills and strengthen their organisational set up.

*[Translation]*

**Computerisation of Banks**

1923. SHRI SATYADEO SINGH :
KUMARI UMA BHARATI :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to computerise the banks fully;

(b) if so, the target fixed in this regard; and

(c) the amount likely to be incurred thereon?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : (a) Computerisation of branches/offices of banks is governed by the industry level settlement dated 29.10.1993 between Indian Banks' Association and the bank employees unions. In terms of this settlement, banks can fully computerise their operations in branches which satisfy certain parameters set out in the settlement.

(b) As reported by RBI, the number of branches identified for total/full branch computerisation upto March 1997 is 2834. Out of this target, 1244 branches had been fully computerised as on 31st March, 1996.

(c) The amount to be incurred for full branch computerisation for industry as a whole cannot be quantified for the reason that the cost per bank branch depends on the size of the branch and several other factors.

*[English]*

**Facilities in Growth Centre in Gujarat**

1924. SHRI SHANTILAL PARSOTAMDAS PATEL : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) the details of the basic facilities provided by the Government so far in the various growth centres in each State particularly in Gujarat;

(b) the details of the work undertaken in these centres during the years 1994-95 and 1995-96;

(c) whether some centres have not been able to start any development work due to non-availability of funds; and

(d) if so, the steps taken by the Union Government to remedy the situation?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN) : (a) to (d). Under the Growth Centre Scheme, 1988 the growth centres approved by the Government of India are to be developed by the State Governments concerned through their implementing agencies. The growth centres would be end-owed with basic infrastructure facilities like power, water,